

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Office of Fire and Aviation
3833 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

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To: State Directors

From: Director, Office of Fire and Aviation

Subject: BLM Prescribed Fire Plan Preparation Workshop DD: 10/19/2001

Over the last four years, many evaluations have been conducted on state prescribed fire programs and on escaped prescribed fires. Several findings have been consistent throughout these reviews. Often burn plans do not meet Bureau guidance provided in H-9214, the *Prescribed Fire Handbook*, Chapter 3 - Prescribed Fire Plan Requirements, and lack the information flow that should occur between sections of the Prescribed Fire Plan. These two items put the Bureau at risk, increase concerns related to the safety of fire personnel and the public, and make one wonder if the objectives of the project will be obtained.

The Bureau is planning a workshop on Prescribed Fire Plan Preparation to be held November 26-30, 2001, Boise, Idaho. Because of the projected number of students who need this training, the workshop is planned to be a Train-the-Trainer type workshop with each state sending a five person training team (or a geographic area team) to the workshop. This state training team should be your best qualified people and will serve as the state's Steering Committee. Membership should include one resource specialist knowledgeable in prescribed fire and four people qualified as Burn Boss 2 or higher; the team may include the State Fuels Specialist, Field Office Fuels Specialists, Technical Reviewers, and Burn Bosses, but all should be your best and most experienced personnel who can serve as instructors. Each state will be asked in the FY 2002 Annual Work Plan Directives to conduct the number of workshops necessary to train their Field Office personnel in writing Prescribed Fire Plans.

The workshop in Boise will cover the following objectives. Students will:

- a. Prepare a Prescribed Fire Plan that is written in compliance with BLM's H-9214, *Prescribed Fire Handbook*.
- b. Learn the roles and responsibilities of the preparer, reviewer and approval personnel.
- c. Assure all pertinent information flows through the appropriate section of the plan as identified in the Prescribed Fire Plan Section Link Chart.
- d. Provide feedback on lesson plan content.
- e. Develop an action plan on how to teach the material in their state.

Based on the feedback from the students, the lesson plans will be revised and a new master printed for each state. This will be distributed by February 1, 2002.

By October 19, each state should send the names of their five person State Training Team to Phil Range, Office of Fire and Aviation. Any questions should be addressed to Phil at 208-387-5555.

Signed by:
Lynn Findley
Acting Director
Office of Fire and Aviation

Authenticated by:
Pat Lewis
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